



MURex Towers

As part of Tooele Army Depot's (TEAD) efforts to expand its' partnering capabilities with commercial businesses, the Ammunition Logistics and Engineering Directorate has joined with GEO Systems, Inc., of Titusville, Florida, to develop a Multi-Use Remote Extension Lift (MURex) for the Navy.

GEO Systems became aware of TEAD's engineering, design and manufacturing capabilities of such, items as; ammo demil and maintenance equipment (APE), robotic vehicles, surveillance and environmental equipment through the depot's marketing efforts and trade show presentations. They requested Ammunition Logistics and Engineering for their assistance in the redesign of their commercial lifting tower in order to fill a request by the Navy to provide a military version of their MURex remote lift.

The MURex Towers are portable, compact lifting devices that can be moved into virtually any venue and provide surveillance, radar, lighting and placement of remote antennas and other equipment in remote locations. The towers can be positioned and moved to alternate locations quickly. They can be built with varying lifting capabilities from 25 to 1800 lbs. They have the ability to lift objects up to 35 feet within a few seconds.

Some of the modifications that TEAD is making to the MURex Towers include adding a second lifting motor, thereby increasing the lifting capability, providing a manual over-ride for lifting and lowering the tower, and adding safety lock-outs. The towers will also include a trailer which can be pulled behind a military vehicle and quickly positioned for use. Once positioned, the tower can be left alone in areas of danger.

The project utilizes the Directorate of Ammunition Logistics and Engineering, engineering

fabrication staff in the re-design and manufacture of the military version. This will position TEAD well for future manufacturing as other branches of DoD become aware of the tower and its capabilities in the field. The towers are very rugged, able to be powered by normal vehicle DC power, or powered by AC if needed. They will be capable of performing in inclement weather, will have camouflage capabilities, be capable of lifting rotating mast mounts and can be secured with guide wires.

The current project for MURex Towers is being manufactured at the depot's Pilot Model Shop in building 520.

A video was recently produced by the Ammunition Equipment Division to demonstrate the various capabilities of the MURex Towers. In the video, TEAD security demonstrated how the towers could lift surveillance cameras above trees for remotely observing movement around secured perimeters and at regular depot entrance points. Also, the Fire Department demonstrated the towers using cameras to probe the dangers of entering burning building before sending firefighters in.



Keith Siniscalchi, Ammo Logistics & Engineering Directorate, TEAD, and Mr. Steve Shannon, HQ AMC; observe the lifting device demo.

Inside this issue:

Terry's Tidbits	2
Tooele Litigation	3
Annual Tech Museum Awards	4
Out Loading Efforts	5
Employee Corner	6
February Events	7



Terry L. Thompson
Civilian Executive Assistant

Terry's Tidbits

criticality to the support of our soldiers and airmen. His position on the commission will assure that the military installations in this state are dealt with fairly and equitably in the BRAC process.

Since I'm discussing BRAC it might not hurt to remind you that the next big event will be the publishing of the Secretary of Defense's list of recommendations on what posts should be eliminated or realigned. This is due out in mid-May, and could include up to 25% of the remaining DoD installations. Following the publishing of this list, the BRAC Commission has about four months to develop their recommendations for closure. This updated list is then passed to the President and then to Congress, who must accept or reject the recommendations in their entirety by November 2005. The recommendations are then law and must be implemented. For the past several years, TEAD has taken numerous actions to assure we are viewed as positively as possible by the decision makers in the BRAC process. I believe we will come through this downsizing screening event favorably.

AMC has a new CG, GEN Griffin, and AFSC's CG, MG Radin, has returned from an assignment in Southwest Asia. I believe we will have visits from both these General Officers during 2005.

We are going through a rebadging effort on the depot which will be completed during January. Your support and cooperation in getting this done is appreciated.

Many of you are aware that we have been assigned command responsibility for the Riverbank Army Ammunition Plant in California. LTC Ripley has taken two trips to RBAAP since August 2004 and just hired a new senior civilian for the plant, Mr. Brownlee Turner. Mr. Turner plans on a visit to TEAD to meet everyone and learn our

Mission, around February.

TEAD is just concluding the effort to reacquire the property North of the Main Entrance road, and East of the railway tracks. This acquisition will enhance our force protection posture and mission accomplishment. This will be completed in January.

LTC Ripley will be leaving us this summer and COL Ann Davis will assume command of the depot. The Change of Command will probably occur during mid July. LTC Ripley has been an exceptional leader and will be missed both as the Commander and a good friend.

The depot has been very successful in obtaining additional work and it looks as if any threat of a reduction in force due to inadequate work has been erased.

We will continue to send our people to Southwest Asia to support the on going war there. The Commander and I interview all returnees as part of their return to work. You have heard and read of my pride in the depot and its people and the work they do. This pride has reached new heights from this experience of talking to these returnees. They have been separated from their families for extended periods and have placed themselves in harms way because they know there is a job to be done and that they can do it. Our soldiers are the best fighters this world has ever known, supported by some of the very best civilians I have ever had the honor of knowing.

The last event for the year 2005, for me, will be my retirement. I plan on retiring at the end of the year from about 40 years of federal service. Many of these years have been at

The Road Ahead—

As we enter into the new year, I thought it might be interesting to cover some of the more significant events that I am aware of that could impact the depot and its employees.

Right now we are deeply involved with getting into the production phase of the Up-Armoring kits for the M939 series truck located in the Iranian Theater. As these kits protect our soldiers, as they fight for our freedoms, we are giving this effort our very best to assure we meet and surpass production and shipping schedules.

I just ready in an article that former Congressman James V. Hansen (R-Ut) has been selected as a Commissioner for the upcoming round of BRAC. I consider this a very important step for Utah and the depot. Mr. Hansen is very familiar with the military operations in the state and

The *Desert Star* is an Army newsletter authorized Publication for members of the Dept. of Defense. Contents of the *Desert Star* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, or the Dept. of the Army or the Tooele Army Depot.

The *Desert Star* is published monthly by the TEAD Public Affairs Office, ATTN: SJMTE-CO-PA, DSN 790-2693, or email andersok@emh3.tooele.army.mil

This issue and previous issues of the *Desert Star* can be viewed on the TEAD web site.



STAFF

TEAD Commander.....LTC Karol L. Ripley

Public Affairs Officer.....Kathy Anderson

Editor/Photographer.....Kathy Anderson

Web site.....www.tooele.army.mil

ISO 9001:2000 Certified

Terry's Tidbits continued...

Tooele Army Depot. There have been many downs, but many more ups from working here. The depot and the Army has been very good to me during all these years and I will remain thankful for the chance to have served the many exceptional Commanders we have had, and to get to know all the many very fine people at TEAD. Leaving the many friends here will be the hardest part of retirement.

2005 will be a great year. I encourage all to continue with their great work.

Tooele Litigation:

Depot Associates accepted a \$6 million settlement agreement on 29 Dec 04 for land Tooele Army Depot took over right after September 11, 2001, for force protection measures. The settlement requires payment by 14 Jan 05. Major Kevin Robitaille, the lawyer at Headquarters Department of the Army, coordinated the case with attorney's from Department of Justice. He delivered the settlement agreement to HQ AFSC on 3 Jan. American Title Insurance Co. (escrow agent) confirmed receipt of funds into escrow on 7 Jan. Major Robitaille identified an additional requirement to pay for title insurance on the property. The final transfer of the property will be completed by 21 Jan 05.

Once again, the Army will be the owners of the portion of the upper administration area, North of the Main Entrance road, about 300 acres including the barracks, bowling alley, union office, and I&R building. "We have prepared a long term demolition plan to demolish the worst of the barracks, then determine if there is a need to keep the barracks that are in fairly good shape. The Tooele Valley High School will remain. This demolition plan will be at no cost to the depot," stated Chris Tillman, Director of Public Works & Logistics.

Hill Air Force Base Colonel gets star—

President Bush has nominated to the rank of brigadier general Col. Michael B. Newton, mobilization assistant to the commander of the Ogden Air Logistics Center at Hill Air Force Base.

Newton assists in policy formulation and operations management to provide worldwide support of a variety of weapon systems, munitions and components. He was commissioned in 1974 through the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps at Indiana University and transferred to the Air Force in November 1983, according to the *Hilltop Times*.

He also is the Chief of Contracting at Tooele Army Depot.

The promotion will take effect upon Senate confirmation and by direction of the Chief of Air Force Reserve.



President makes '05 pay tables official -

President Bush signed an executive order Dec 30 making the 2005 military and civilian pay tables official. The 2005 pay scales are available online at the following web sites:

Civilian Pay Tables -
www.opm.gov/oca/05tables/index.asp
 Military Pay Tables -

www.dfas.mil/money/milpay/pay/
 Civilian W-2s are also available online at <https://mypay/dfas/mil/mypay/asp>.

Checking employee Leave & Earnings Statement -

Employees are reminded it is their responsibility to check their Leave and Earnings Statement to verify the correct deductions are being withheld for their benefits.

This includes Thrift Savings Plan, Federal Employees Health Benefits and Federal Employees Group Life Insurance.

All deductions are listed on the LES under "Deductions" and include the dollar amount.

The TSP is also listed in Block #22 on the LES with either the percentage or dollar amount elected for contribute.

A TSP loan would also be listed under deductions with the TSP loan number.

Employees transferring to the installation are strongly encouraged to double check all deductions to make sure everything has transferred with no interruption.

FEGLI Open Season changes will not be reflected since they are not effective until September 2005.

For more information, contact the CPOC at Ext. 2412.

CFC 2004—Final Report

The 2004 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) results are in! Employees from TEAD, U.S. Army Health Clinic, and 62nd EOD donated **\$34,431**. This is EXCELLENT contribution.

Thank you for putting your money where your hear is.



Annual Tech Museum Awards Honors Five Global Innovators with \$250,000

The Tech Museum of Innovation announced the 25 laureates for the 2004 Tech Museum Awards, presented by Applied Material, Inc. At a black tie awards gala on November 10, 2004, Silicon Valley leaders and representatives from program partners the United Nations Development Program, The World Bank Institute, and Santa Clara University, honored all 25 of their pioneering work in developing technology for the benefit of humanity. Five of these laureates will share a \$250,000 cash prize.

The Tech awards are designed to honor individuals and for-profit, public and not-for-profit organizations from around the world who are applying technology to profoundly improve the human condition in the areas of environment, economic development, education, equality and health.

This year, an esteemed panel of judges considered more than 580 nominations, representing 80 countries. The 25 laureates represent a global community from locations including Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, India, Guatemala, Nepal, Nigeria, Singapore, the United States, and Uruguay.

“The Tech Museum Award, which was inspired by United Nations development goals set at the millennium, uniquely recognizes those who use technology to benefit mankind,” said the Tech’s President and CEO Peter Giles. “By celebrating this spirit of innovation, The Tech seek to inspire a new generation of socially conscious leaders who will leverage technology to address the myriad of challenges we face as a global community.”

The 2004 Tech Museum Awards Laureates include:

Intel Environment Award—

Developing or using technologies that conserve and protect our planet’s ecosystems:

Dr. Kenneth Owens, Jr. and Paul Burgess, Humboldt State University, Arcata, United States, was among the four winners in this category. Development of remote-controlled, GPS-enabled robots to seek and destroy landmines. Mine-clearing is commonly done by hand, resulting in dangerous, high-cost cleanup operations. Using robotic mine-clearing vehicles remotely controlled by human operators is a safer method but is not entirely precise. Dr. Owens and Mr. Burgess developed this system using global positioning and inertial navigation technologies in conjunction with custom JAVA software to autonomously guide a robotic mine-clearing vehicle through a minefield. The software precisely displays and records the area covered by the robot’s de-mining apparatus in real-time to a desired tolerance level using a custom statistical algorithm.

The Tooele Army Depot’s, Ammunition Logistics and Engineering team developed this machine to destroy antipersonnel mines in the battlefields throughout the world. Dr. Ken Owens was sought to help take TEAD’s machine to its next generation of guidance systems. Dr. Owens added a precision guidance system to the TEAD’s machine and the demining equipment we field for Fort Belvoir to achieve near autonomous control. This navigational system was part of an on going project of Fort Belvoir and the Ammunition Engineering Division at TEAD. Ammunition Engineering Division and Fort Belvoir have actively been pursuing machines to destroy land mines. Together they have developed a Mini-Flail that detonates antipersonnel mines while Fort Belvoir has been targeting the larger vehicle and tank mines.

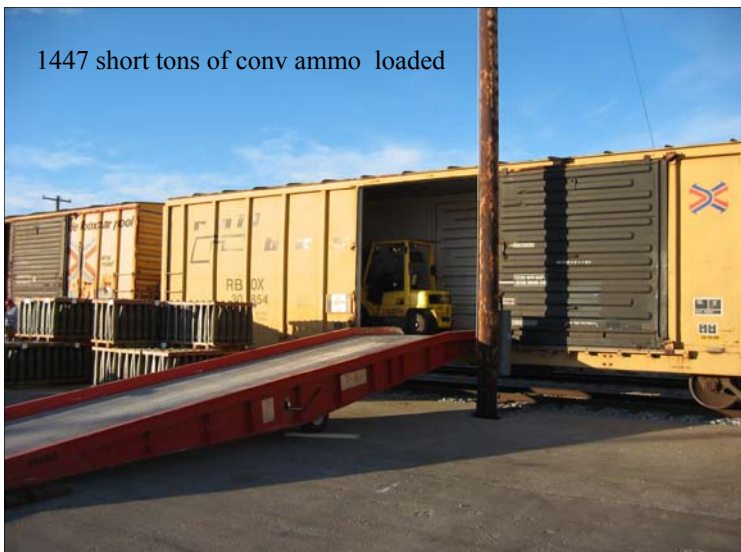


Out loading effort -

Approximately 1447 short tons of miscellaneous Conventional Ammunition assets departed Tooele Army Depot on December 21. The Union Pacific Railroad hauled 29 rail cars containing 99 containers to a port on the East coast.

Ammunition Logistics and Engineering moved 226 containers and 3048 short tons of ammunition in the 1st Qtr FY05 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. They are currently working on a 83 container call forward for Europe leaving to the port the last week of January.

This effort was completed with zero defects and no safety issues.



1447 short tons of conv ammo loaded



29 rail cars

Public Works staff wants to hear from you -

Director of Public Works and staff are personally interested in getting feedback from each of their customers. They want to know if you're satisfied with their services and where they can improve. "We're continuously looking for opportunities and ideas for improvement," stated Carol Sibert, Public Works Directorate.

The new on-line feedback form allows you, as a customer, to let them know where the weaknesses are. If you don't notify them, they may not even know there is a problem. Also, they are always on the lookout for ways to conserve energy.

The feedback form is very easy to use and can be submitted anonymously any time of the day (or night). However, if you provide your name and phone number, they can get back to you personally and let you know what the status is and how the problem was corrected. This feedback form is located on the Depot Intranet under Public Works. Each feedback form received is evaluated to determine what, if any, corrective actions can be taken to meet their goal of continuous improvement.

"This form is a permanent tool, not just a one-time use. Therefore, please feel free to submit feedback as often as you like. Remember, if we don't know it's broke, we can't fix it! We want to hear from you," stated Carol.

Army to deploy New Resume Building/ Answer Tool —

On 26 Jan 05, a new version of the Army civilian Resume Builder and ANSWER deployed. The deployment of the new Resume Building will modernize, simplify and shorten the application process. The new tool will combine both the Resume Builder and ANSWER into one application providing a number of benefits to applicants.

Users with existing Resume Building and ANSWER accounts should log in as "Registered Users" when first accessing the new Resume Builder/ANSWER application. You will be prompted to verify/update your registration information. Your resume will not appear in the new builder, but will not be affected in the central Resumix database.

Enhancements and features of the new Resume Builder/ANSWER are:

- Army Civilian Resume Builder and ANSWER now together under one logical process

Continued on page 7...

Employee's Corner

Congratulations to all that retired in December '04 and January '05.



(Left) Michael DeHerrera was born in 1948 in Colorado. He was raised in Colorado along with his six brothers and four sisters. He joined the Navy in 1968 and served aboard the USS Whiteplains off the coast of Vietnam. In 1975 he received an Associate Degree in retail merchandising. His first job at Tooele Army Depot was a painter's helper, WG-5. Mike and his wife Nelda, have two sons, and two granddaughters and one grandson. With his retirement, he plans on sleeping until noon, if he wants, go to work at his part time job when he wants, or just do about anything he wants. During a retirement ceremony, LTC Ripley presented him with a retirement flag. Mike thanked all TEAD employees for making it all possible.



(Left) Brent College retired on January 3. He retired with 30 years of federal service. Brent started federal service by joining the Army in 1969. He served three years as a Combat Medic. He started at Tooele Army Depot on Valentine's Day 1977. He has worked for Security and Maintenance. Brent and his wife have two sons, one daughter, and four grandsons. He enjoys hunting and camping and traveling and all forms of spectator sports. He plans on spending as much time as possible just doing nothing and watching their grandsons in sports. Chris Tillman, Director of Public Works, presented Brent with his retirement flag during a ceremony on Jan 3.



(Left) She finally did it! Lynn Mecham, ACS Officer/ADCO, retired from Tooele Army Depot after 39 years of service. LTC Ripley presented Lynn with her retirement certificate during a ceremony on Jan 13, at the Eagle's Nest. Lynn plans on spending most of her time with her

(Right) Steve Campbell was born in Tacoma, WA., and moved to Utah when he was 10 years old. He enlisted in the Navy in 1972 for four years, including a one year tour in Vietnam. He started working at TEAD in 1976 on the Guard Force. In 1977 he was selected to be a Firefighter. He worked up through the ranks to the position of Asst. Chief.

He loves fishing, boating, camping, traveling, and his 1968 Mustang. After retirement, he plans on spending most of his time working on his 1968 Mustang.

(Picture unavailable)

Congratulations to Penny Thomas, TEAD, Fire and Emergency Services Branch. Penny and her Husband, Dave, had a baby girl on Jan 11. The baby weighed 6.9 lbs. They named her Shiloh Rose.



Welcome Home— We would like to welcome home three of the depot volunteers from the Middle East. Bob Bauer, Lonnie McGee, and Craig Powers. Mr. Powers served four months in Kuwait, Camp Arifjan. He returned Jan 20, and is very glad to be back to work. Mr. Bauer served three months at Camp Cooke, Taji. He was right in the middle of the war zone and was living in a very dangerous area. He returned on Dec 15, and is very glad to be home safe. Mr. McGee served four months in Al Hatr, Iraq, at Camp Jaguar. Lonnie is very glad to have had the opportunity to help, but also is glad to be home.

New Resume Builder/ANSWER tool continued...

- Capability to toggle between Resume Builder and ANSWER.
- User friendly/Menu driven—no more scrolling down one long page.
- Enhanced copy, cut, and paste capability—able to copy from ANSWER and paste into Resume Builder.
- Worksheet formats available for work experience, education and additional information—puts information in proper format.
- New job experience entries will automatically be entered at the beginning of the resume.
- One large box for job experience versus six individual boxes—allows for more flexibility.
- Up to 12,000 characters for job experience description.
- Status tracking enhanced—only last 25 entries displayed, with option to view more.
- Enhanced “Help Menu” available for application’s use.

*To learn more on how to apply for Army jobs, please visit the website at:
<http://acpol.army.mil/employment>*

Beverly Schulz

1949 ~ 2005



Beverly will be greatly missed by all the TEAD employees.

With great sorrow we say good bye to one of our family members. Beverly Schultz passed away peacefully at her home after a valiant battle with breast cancer, Saturday, Jan 22, 2005. Beverly retired from TEAD in April 2004, with 19 years of service. She was the Civilian Pay Technician her entire career. Funeral services were held on Wed. Jan 26, in Grantsville, UT.

WRIST SAVER Here's a quick way to relieve wrist pain and strain that can result from typing and other repetitive motions: Rest your elbow on a desk with your hand hanging over the edge. Stretch your fingers as far back as you can with your other hand and hold for five seconds. Repeat for the other hand. Try it! What to you have to lose?



“Hello, Sugar”

Brown sugar, white sugar – they’re both sucrose. The difference: Brown sugar has a small amount of molasses added for color and flavoring. But it has no nutritional advantages over its white counterpart.

Events for February

Weekly—————>

Solo Diners Eat Out Week. Feb 1-7. Treat yourself to a meal in a restaurant—all by yourself.

Celebration of Love Week. Feb 13-19. To stress the importance and value of love in making the world a much better place to live in.

International Friendship Week. Feb 20-26. To promote international friendship and the international language Esperanto.

Live to Give Week. Feb 21-27. A national week of community service.

Daily—————>

Women’s Heart Health Day. Feb 1. To promote the awareness that heart disease is the No. 1 killer of American Women.

Groundhog Day. Feb 2. A day based on the old belief that if the sun shines on Candlemas Day, or if the groundhog sees his shadow when he emerges on this day, six weeks of winter will ensue.

Leadership Success Day. Feb 8. To honor the CEOs of companies with sales of more than \$20 million and who didn’t just pay lip service to the statement: “People are our greatest asset.”

National Women and Girls in Sports Day. Feb 9. Celebrates and honors all girls and women in sports. Commemorates the passage of Title IX in 1972, the law that guarantees gender equity in federally funded programs, including athletics.

Valentine’s Day. Feb 14. A widely observed but unofficial holiday. It is an occasion for the exchange of gifts and greeting cards with affectionate and humorous messages. Originally a Christian feast day for a martyr, it has also been linked to a legend that birds choose their mates on this day.

President’s Day. To observe the birthdays of George Washington (Feb 22) and Abraham Lincoln (Feb 12).

**ACTING IG
Tom Hammond
833-3294**

**SAFETY
OFFICE
Bldg 400
833-3888**

**EEO Officer
Geneal Frazier
833-2694**

